

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 2, 2008

Honorable George W. Bush
President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

We are writing in support of Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal's request for a Major Disaster declaration. Unfortunately, due to the magnitude of Hurricane Gustav, state and local governments are unable to fully respond without federal assistance.

As you are well aware, Louisiana was hit by Hurricane Gustav yesterday and many of the parishes in Louisiana continue to experience the impact of this storm. The Governor declared a statewide state of emergency on August 27, 2008 and we appreciate your timely issuance of an Emergency Declaration for the State of Louisiana. This partnership between the local, state and federal governments allowed for the safe evacuation of nearly two million Louisiana residents. As a result of his preliminary assessments, the Governor has requested that several heavily impacted Parishes be declared to receive assistance through the Individual Assistance program, which includes financial assistance, direct housing assistance, and other needs assistance.

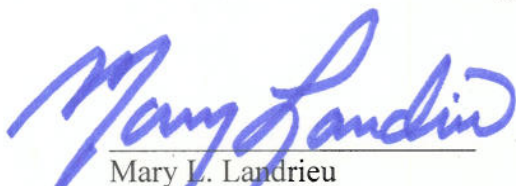
Hurricane force winds, torrential rain and tidal surges were felt in numerous parishes across the state and strong winds continue in some parts of Louisiana. Over 900,000 people are currently without power and the electrical grid suffered such major damage that some areas may take up to four weeks for service to be restored. Widespread damage to homes across the state is also expected.


Additionally, we support the Governor's request to include debris removal assistance for all parishes in the state. Hurricane Gustav produced massive amounts of debris that will need to be removed in order to allow for the safe return of our citizens to their homes and their jobs.

We urge you to quickly make the necessary disaster declarations so that residents of the affected areas can receive federal disaster assistance and begin their recovery.

Thank you for considering this urgent request. Please feel free to contact us should you need any additional information.

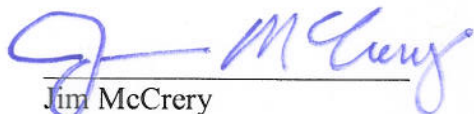
Sincerely,


Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senator


David Vitter
United States Senator

September 2, 2008

Page 2



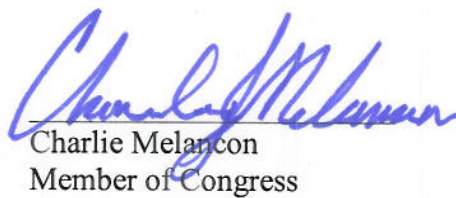
Jim McCrery
Member of Congress



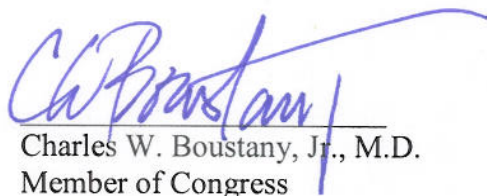
William J. Jefferson
Member of Congress



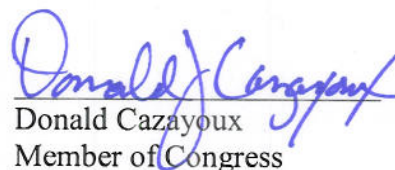
Rodney Alexander
Member of Congress



Charlie Melancon
Member of Congress



Charles W. Boustany, Jr., M.D.
Member of Congress



Donald Cazayoux
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress